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paying compensation in cash in accordance with the valuation fixed by authorized officials of the Revenue Department. Facilities will also be afforded to the displaced villagers for rehabilitation elsewhere. Details for such rehabilitation are under consideration.

Provision of drainage to Kandaparichan channel in Tiruthuraipundi taluk

* 371 *Q.*—Sri A. K. SUBBIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to provide drainage to Kandaparichan channel in Tiruthuraipudi taluk, Tanjore district;

(*b*) if so, when it will be taken up; and

(*c*) its estimated cost?

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) An estimate for the scheme has been received from the Chief Engineer (Irrigation). The question of its sanction and execution can be decided upon only on receipt and examination of the Collector's report on the administrative, revenue, Grow-More Food and financial aspects of the scheme, which is awaited by the Government.

(*c*) The scheme is estimated, at present, to cost Rs. 5·63 lakhs for works.

Prohibition of the import of molasses into the State

* 372 *Q.*—Sri N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any step has been taken to prohibit the import of molasses into this State; and

(*b*) if so, the details thereof?

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN : (*a*) & (*b*) The answer is in the negative.

Sri N. K. PALANISAMY : May I know whether the Government are aware that molasses are utilized only for the purpose of illicit distillation? May I know why the Government hesitate to ban the import of molasses into this State? Is it for the purpose of encouraging offences against Prohibition?

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN : There is at present no restriction on the import of molasses into this State. It is however proposed to amend the Madras Prohibition Act of 1937 by inserting a clause there. This new section which is proposed to be introduced is intended to provide for the control and regulation of molasses which form the largest and most important base used in illicit distillation as was referred to by the hon. Member. The